

REMARKS

EXAMINER'S OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION.

Applicant has amended page 6 of the Specification as required by the Examiner and therefore this correction is believed to comply with the Examiner's requirements.

EXAMINER'S OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant has amended the claims, specifically claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 in such a manner that the first and second rollers are not required in the drawings. Therefore, Applicant has eliminated the necessity for amending the drawings as required by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant has amended the claims so as to overcome the Examiner's rejections. The first rejection was to claims 6-8 and 12-14. Claims 6-8 have been amended and claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled. Claim 14 has been amended as well. It is believed that these amendments to the claims eliminate the requirement of a first and second roller and therefore comply with the Examiner's requirements.

The Examiner also rejected the claims as being indefinite under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 for omitting essential elements, namely the sliding barrier 38. Applicant has amended the claims as follows.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a barrier connected to the conveyor belt. It is believed that the amendment to claim 1 complies with the Examiner's requirement.

Applicant has amended claims 6-8 to eliminate the requirement of the first and second rollers, and also to clearly set forth the chain and sprocket assembly. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 6-8 are also in compliance with the Examiner's requirement.

Applicant has amended claim 9 to require the step of attaching a barrier to the conveyor belt. In addition, Applicant has amended the claim to require inserting the quantity of material within the material chamber "between the barrier and the conveyor belt". This is also believed to comply with the Examiner's requirement and therefore it is believed to meet the Examiner's objections.

Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to provide antecedent support.

Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

Claim 14 has been amended to eliminate the requirement of the first and second rollers.

Claim 15 has been amended to require the training of a continuous belt/chain assembly around a chain sprocket and a belt roller, the belt chain assembly comprising a belt, and a barrier connected to the belt as well as a chain connected to the barrier. It is believed that this complies with the Examiner's requirement and therefore claim 15 is believed also to be allowable.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103. The Examiner has cited numerous references including the Groeneveld reference, the Glick reference, the Wolfe reference, and the Meyer reference. None of these references disclose a barrier such as required by the claims. For example, claim 1 requires a barrier connected to the conveyor belt. There is no such disclosure in any of the references cited by the Examiner.

Similarly, claim 9 requires "attaching a barrier to the conveyor belt" and inserting a quantity of material within the material chamber between the barrier and the conveyor belt. Again, none of the references disclose such a barrier.

Claim 15 was indicated by the Examiner to be allowable if amended to overcome the rejections under § 112. Applicant has inserted the barrier into claim 15, and therefore it is believed that claim 15 is also allowable in view of the cited art.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued. If prosecution of this application can be facilitated by a telephone interview, Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone Applicant's Attorney of Record at the below-identified number.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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